

To Whom It may Concern:

Regarding Comcast's network management practices.
Specifically p2p and bit torrent protocol traffic.

It is in my opinion that such practices of slowing down, blocking, sending fake packet data to interrupt connections between two computer nodes should be ruled as illegal and in bad faith on the part of the internet service provider (ISP). Ruling it legal for Comcast to continue such practices will set a dangerous precedent across the United States and set a poor example to ISP's in foreign nations. In fact, Bell Canada has already adopted similar measures with its clients there.

First point is the fact that taxpayer dollars are responsible for creating the Internet (Arpanet). In many people's opinion's it should therefore be available for free since it has already been paid for. However, private investment in infrastructure is necessary to continue to expand the system and lead the world in Internet access.

When a user pays a fee for premium access to pipeline's that include higher speeds and increased monthly bandwidth (bandwidth limits being a reasonable form of bandwidth management but not liked by the average user), the user is paying for exactly that, a certain top 'speed' and a certain amount of GB's per month. If the ISP further restricts the type of data or the speed of certain incoming data, this is a direct violation of what the customer originally signed up for in his service agreement. If we cannot bring the data in fast enough, we would find it difficult to ever use our allotted bandwidth for the month.

Traffic congestion in the computer science community is deemed as the problem of the ISP for failing to keep up with customer demand for services they promised. If they cannot deliver, they need to lower their prices, offer slower speeds at appropriate prices, or adjust their monthly bandwidth quotas. Monthly bandwidth quotas that surpass their limits are typically charged for the excess data usage. This is reasonable and should be used to further expand the ISP's infrastructure.

Further, the hindering of net traffic protocols such as bit torrent by the ISP's could seriously hinder future economic progress, technological progress, and new business models. I envision television networks being able to legally deliver their TV shows through the internet utilizing bit torrent protocols to transfer or stream video (this streaming option is already being tested). Further, online video content could have advertising data embedded that gets automatically updated or adjusted according to geographic location and time. (This could open the Internet back up and stop the geographic restricting of websites by television networks to people outside the US. A great benefit to expat workers)

I hope my comments are useful and constructive.

Victor Ayers
US Citizen and expat worker